

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 232047
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 232047

STADIS////////////////////////////////////
FOR AMBASSADOR FROM VEST

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, RO

SUBJECT: DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER NICULESCU'S REQUEST FOR
APPOINTMENT WITH SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL

REF: BUCHAREST 6251

1. YOUR ARGUMENTS (REFTEL) ON THE IMPORTANCE OF A
BLUMENTHAL-NICULESCU MEETING ARE WELL-FORMULATED AND
PERSUASIVE.

2. HOWEVER, THE HARD HEARTED BANKERS AT TREASURY ARE
DOLING OUT APPOINTMENTS WITH BLUMENTHAL AS IF THEY WERE
GOLD BARS FROM FORT KNOX. AT THE WORKING LEVEL, THEY'VE
TOLD US THAT THE CHANCES OF MEETING FOR NICULESCU WITH
BLUMENTHAL ARE VIRTUALLY NIL BECAUSE THERE ARE "NO
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ISSUES" TO BE DISCUSSED. WHILE I'M HEARTENED BY THIS
OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF OUR ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH ROMANIA,
I STILL BELIEVE THAT A BLUMENTHAL-NICULESCU MEETING
WOULD BE USEFUL, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF NICULESCU'S
HELP ON THE DECREE 223 ISSUE.

3. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR A MEETING FROM THIS

SIDE, BUT I URGE YOU TO RESUBMIT YOUR EXCELLENT CABLE
DIRECTLY TO TREASURY FOR SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL. CHRISTOPHER

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